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## **News Release**

### **Electronic Recording System Coming to Madison County**

*New system will provide enhanced services, online access and paperless recording.*

**(July 13, 2011)** – The Madison County Recorder's Office has launched a project that will safeguard identity related information and provide online access to decade's worth of documents.

The Madison County Recorder's office recently signed an agreement with Fidlar Technologies to provide new technology enabling the Recorder's office to offer new services and, in return, increase revenue for Madison County. Once completed, the project will make it possible for users to record documents online.

"I believe it's time for county government to be more innovative in how it provides services in these advanced times." Madison County Recorder Angela Shelton said. "This new system will allow customers to access our services more reliably and conveniently."

On Tuesday (July 13, 2011), the Madison County Recorder's Office received approval from the County Council to fund the installation of new equipment, and software, replacing the recorder's existing computerized land records system. The current system, purchased in 2003, allows users to electronically search mortgages, deeds, liens, restrictive covenants, and a wide variety of land and property records back to 1989. In the near future, users will be able to search online back to 1960, with older records still available in the office in hard copy form.

Over the next four years the Madison County Recorder's office will save money compared to the cost of maintaining the previous system's multiple maintenance agreements, and expand the capabilities of many of the current services. Implementing the new system will:

- Give Madison County the tools necessary to meet the State of Indiana's requirements to automatically redact Social Security numbers from public records, making the job of a would be identity thief more difficult.
- Provide measurable productivity gains that will enhance customer service and provide faster turnaround time for recorded documents.
- Create the capability for users to search and view 1 million property and land record documents online.
- Allow users to record documents via the Internet saving money, time and postage.

The new system should be installed and operational by the end of the year. Approximately 80,000 pages of documents a year are recorded in the Madison County Recorder's Office.

The cost of the project will be paid from the County Security ID Fund, established in 2006 specifically to pay for the redaction technology, and from the Recorder's Records Perpetuation Fund, which derives funding from the user fees. The Madison County Recorder's Office will realize a cost savings of \$76,000 dollars for software, online service, updates, support and training.

Prior to the launch of the new system later this year, training sessions will be offered by Fidlar Technologies for customers as well as Recorder's Office personnel.

"Our goal in the Madison County Recorder's Office is to provide our services in new and innovative ways, reduce the load on taxpayers and make our services more readily available to our community and its businesses," Shelton added. "The cost savings provided by this project will allow us to use the money to redact our historical documents and preserve more of them in digital form for safekeeping."

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